LATE FRAME RECOVERY METHOD

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Method of processing a transmitted encoded media data stream is received. If a data element arrives prior to, or at, a predetermined playout deadline, the data element is decoded, the media represented by the decoded data element is played, and the data element is provided to a decoder state machine to update a decoder state. If a data element arrives after the predetermined playout deadline, the data element is provided to the decoder state machine to update the decoder state. In one embodiment, if the specified data element fails to arrive by the playout deadline, a subsequently received data element is saved in memory. Then, if the specified data element arrives after the predetermined playout deadline, the specified data element and the saved, subsequently received, data element are provided to the decoder state machine to update the decoder state.